

25 February 1981

Dear Paul,

My letter of 3 February assessing Lifton's book was not intended to be publicized or shared with anyone--least of all with Lifton. I am sorry that you disclosed the contents of my letter, without checking with me first, to Lifton.

This is not a petty or formalistic objection, because as a result of this indiscretion Lifton is now telling people that I think his book is great, or words to that effect. That is, of course, a gross misrepresentation of what I said in my letter. Most of the letter voiced reservations and objections to the book, in whole or in part, but Lifton of course is not mentioning my negative criticisms.

Moreover, he is also telling people that the only critics who have been able to make me lose my temper are himself and Jones Harris. That will soon get back to Jones Harris, if it has not already come to his attention.

After your long association with Lifton, you should have been aware that his judgment and character are sometimes lacking and that he might misuse my commentary, which followed your request that I tell you what I think of his book and which was intended solely for you. In the future, please consider any letters from me as "confidential" or "eyes only" unless there is an indication to the contrary.

Yours sincerely,